The Game of Billiards: Sahaefer still Champion- A Run of 690 and an Average of 333 1-3
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Schaefer Still Champion—A Run of 690 and an Average of 333 1-3.

As select an audience as it has ever been our pleasure to see were assembled within the walls of McCormick Hall, Chicago, on the evening of May 15, to witness the first regular match for the J. M. Brunswick & Balke emblem, representing the three-ball championship of the world. It will be remembered by most of our readers that Jacob Schaefer, in a recent tournament at the Cooper Institute, this city, won the championship, beating all his seven competitors—Sexton, Slosson, Daly, Gallagher, Garnier, Heiser and Rudolphe, and crediting himself, in his final game with Slosson, with an average of 85 5-7. That game was acknowledged by all unbiased professionals to have been the greatest game of billiards ever played in this country, not excepting the memorable Phelan-Seereiter struggle at Detroit in 1859. In it was made Slosson's then best run of 464, leaving Schaefer 540 points behind in a game of 600 points. With nerve and play hitherto unprecedented, Schaefer rolled up in the next two innings 283 and 298, wining the game; while Slosson was making 12 points. Prejudiced people at once began to clamor about luck, attributing Slosson's defeat to any and every cause but the right one.

The truth of the matter was simply this—Slosson lost his head. If some old staid coacher like Kavanagh, Parker, Boyle, or Joe Dion had been sitting at his side, it were almost impossible for him to lose the game; somebody to send him out of the room for a few minutes and advise him of the fact that Schaefer *had* to hit the balls while he could play safely until a favorable shot appeared. There is an old wise saw that particularly applies to umpires and principals in billiard matches: "Two heads are better than one, even if one is a 'cabbage head.'"

For reasons now well known some few New York professionals worked themselves up to a fever heat over their general slaughter by Schaefer in the tournament. This fever was made more raging by the modest and retiring manner of the champion, who was apparently as calm and unconcerned after the tourney as before its origin. He was scarcely seen after his sweeping victory, and all who know him personally will bear testimony to his dislike of ostentatiousness and desire of avoiding congratulations or praise. Even cool and deliberate Sexton forgot his identity for the time and offered to back Slosson against Schaefer. To all these banters, which, no doubt, would compel most ordinary professional mortals to acknowledge through fear of being deemed cowardly. Schaefer simply said: "There is the emblem. I have got to defend it, and you know as well as I the rules governing its possession." Piqued still more by his courageous and honorable conduct, it was determined to clip his wings at any risk. Accordingly Slosson was dispatched to Chicago and the result our readers are no doubt fully acquainted with. In one hour and five minutes with runs of 5, 690 and 305 and an average of 333⅓, the champion left Slosson standing at 44 points. To say that the assemblage was enthusiastic over the performance would convey but a slight idea of the tension they were under, and when the game was finished the hall resounded with cheer upon cheer.

Among those present at the match were Charles Massey, J. W. McCullagh and Thos. J. Gallagher, of St. Louis; Frank Parker, Henry Rhines, Mose Bensinger, L. Schmidt, Mike Honahan, Charles Schaefer, Jeff Ferguson, Henry Fisher, Frank F. Pultz, Albert Hoa, Peter Snider, Tom Foley, Billy Boyle, Harry Cole, Abe Bassford, John D. O'Connor, and Harvey Doty, of Chicago; H. W. Collender and "Yank" Adams, of New York; Phil Kearney, of Indianapolis; Parker A. Beyers, of Lafayette, Ind.; John Callahan, of Milwaukee; Jacob Vanetta and J. E. Fisher, of Madison, Wis.

The following is the summary of the game:

McCormick Hall, Chicago, Ill., May 15, 1879.—First regular contest for the J. M. Brunswick and Balke Company emblem, representing the three-ball championship of the world, and $500 a side; game, 1,000 points, on a 5 × 10 table. Contestants: Jacob Schaefer (champion), of Chicago, and George F. Slosson, of New York. Score: Schaefer, 1,000; Slosson, 44. Runs: Schaefer, 5, 690, 305; Slosson, 14, 9, 21. Averages: Schaefer, 333⅓; Slosson, 14.2-3. Time of game, 1 hour 5 min. Referee, Wayman McCleery, of St. Louis. Umpires, for Schaefer, Dave Pulsiver, of Boston; for Slosson, Charles Slosson. Marker, Charles Matthews.

Schaefer, after visiting his folks, who reside in Kansas, will in all probability visit New York City.

Will Vignaux be frightened off from visiting this country when he learns of that run of 690 and average of 333⅓?

H. J. Bergman, the Philadelphia agent for the J. M. B. & B. Co. sent orders for eleven tables last Tuesday. He has sold over forty tables since the middle of March.

Mr. Henry Hollman, 245 Bowery, opens Saturday, May 24, with two J. M. Brunswick & Balke Co. Nonpareils.

The J. M. Brunswick & Balke Co. ship this week a Nonpareil table to Malaga, Spain, to an enthusiastic *Don* who witnessed the Paris Tournament.

Arthur Spragg, of Bloomfield, N. J., opened on the 20th with two ebony and gilt Brunswick & Balke Nonpareils with Monarch cushions.

Philip Schauble, Elizabethport, N. J., has put in two more Nonpareils. This is the place where Parker tried to stop a train.

A certain billiard man in this city got so mixed recently that he went to have a Turkish bath and forgot to take off his clothes.

Match Off.—Owing to the death of the brother of George Tower the match for $300, to take place at Bumstead Hall, was postponed and the stakes drawn. The backers of Tower paid all expenses.

Our Butcher returns thanks for the kindnesses extended him while in Chicago by Henry Rhines, Mose Bensinger, T. Z. Coles, of the Chicago *Tribune*, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parker.

Mose Bensinger and L. Schmidt, of Chicago, attended Phil Tieman's funeral, at Cincinnati, as also did Messrs. Brunswick, Balke and Troecher. These gentlemen comprise the firm known as J. M. Brunswick & Balke Co.

During the big run of 690 made by Schaefer in his game with Slosson, Jeff Ferguson inquired of us, "Who do you suppose is pulling the string? He never will get through dancing! He appears to be wound up to run a month."

Eugene F. Bixby recently opened a handsome billiard parlor at 390 Court street, Brooklyn, containing five tables. The room was formally opened May 7 by Sexton and "Yank" Adams, who gave an exhibition of their skill before many of the prominent residents of South Brooklyn

The "Butcher" of this department, who went to Chicago to witness the Schaefer and Slosson contest, is a walking evidence, at present, of the hospitality extended to Eastern people by Chicagoans. Upon his return home he was hardly recognizable, even by his own family. He expects to reduce his head to its former size in a few days.

To those sore-heads who are continually crying out against the "rail" and trying to detract from the performance of Schaefer, the following announcement will not prove palatable: "We were authorized to state, upon our arriving in New York, that Jacob Schaefer will play either Sexton or Slosson cushion caroms for $500 a side. Mike Honahan, Dave Pulsifer and Jacob himself, each have the necessary 'dust' to make the match. The old expression used in the pugilists' vocabulary, 'Put up or shut up,' is particularly adapted to this case; so, gentlemen, retreat gracefully or forever hold your peace."

The Difference.—The odds in the pool-selling throughout the States was on Slosson. This can be readily accounted for, when it is known that Slosson was instrumental in bringing it about. A gentleman whose father owns the building which contains the largest billiard-room in Chicago informed us that upon interrogating Slosson as to the latter's chances of his beating Schaefer, he was advised not to give any heed to the result, but to bet on the number of points he would win by. On the other hand, we found Schaefer answering all questions regarding his chances as did the veteran Dudley Kavanagh: "I will do the best I can."

Yank Adams, who saw the run of 690 made by Schaefer, is stopping with one of the *first* families in Chicago. He is *en route* to Denver City, where he is under contract to give exhibitions. It would excite the wonder of old Rip Van Winkle himself, could he see Adams accommodate his portly person to the seats of the average car. He dove-tails into them in one act, and before you can say Jack Robinson the car resounds with his snoring. As Adams travels the most of his time, he must make many a poor, unfortunate human, who can't pick out a comfortable lounging angle in those modern racks, break the tenth commandment.

Vignaux Speaks.—The following letter from Dan Strauss tells its own story:

New York, May 19, 1879.

Billiard Editor Turf, Field and Farm: I have received a letter from Mr. Vignaux in reference to the challenge of Mr. Slosson to play a match on a Collender table for the cup won by Vignaux some years ago. He requests me to say to Mr. Slosson that he has held the cup for five years or more, and consequently considers it his own property, he never having refused to play for it with any one. If Mr. Slosson wishes to play a match of 600 points, on a Brunswick & Balke table, for the Paris Brunswick Cup and Stake, he will accommodate him.

If Slosson declines to play on that table, Vignaux will make a match of 1,000 on a Collender table and 1,000 points on a French table. If Mr. Slosson wishes to accept these terms it will be necessary for him to give Mr. Vignaux a week's notice, as he is traveling with Mr. Garnier in the South of France, and it will require a little time for him to get to Paris and make the necessary arrangements.

Yours truly, Dan Strauss.

Another Veteran Gone.—"Tieman—At 9:45 P. M. Saturday, May 17, 1879, Philip Tieman, in the 45th year of his age. Funeral will take place Tuesday morning, May 20, at 8 o'clock, at 442 West Eighth street. Friends invited to attend." Thus read the announcement in the death column of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*. It was evident for some time back that "Phil," as he was called by all who knew him personally, had been gradually succumbing to the complaint that had for years made him almost a cripple. For twenty years he had suffered from that dreaded disorder, rheumatism, which, in spite of the best physicians and treatment, finally penetrated his vitals. Tieman was born in Germany Aug. 6, 1834, and came to this country when quite a small boy with his father. The latter located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where his son has remained up to the time of his decease. As a billiard player he at one time ranked high, although generally unsuccessful in his matches. In tournaments and matches he has crossed cues with John Deery, Victor Estephe, Louis Fox, William Goldthwaite, Michael Foley, Dudley Kavanagh, John Seereiter, Michael Geary, James Lynch, Joseph N. White, Harry Choate and John Peck. Owing principally to his physical troubles he has played no matches since 1865, when he was compelled to pay forfeit in a match with William Goldthwaite. On that occasion he made a new match for $1,000 a side, and nominated John McDevitt, which took place on May 31, and sent many New Yorkers home with empty pockets. Tieman has many friends in Cincinnati, where his name was almost a household word.

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